

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting tissue hypoxia in a mammalian subject by (a) contacting a bodily fluid sample with an antibody specific for an oxygen related protein 150 (ORP150) comprising SEQ ID NO: 2 or an immunoreactive fragment thereof in order to detect the level of ORP150 in the bodily fluid sample, whereby an elevated level of ORP150 relative to normal is indicative of an increased risk of heart disease and (b) contacting a bodily fluid sample with an antibody specific for brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) or N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide (N-BNP), whereby an elevated level of brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) or N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide (N-BNP) is indicative of an increased risk of heart disease.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein heart disease is the result of heart failure, chronic heart failure, coronary artery disease, ischaemic cardiomyopathy, myocardial infarction arteriosclerosis, ischaemic stroke, aortic aneurysm, or peripheral vascular disease.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the bodily fluid is plasma.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is ~~in the format of~~ an immunoassay.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the immunoassay is a lateral flow immunoassay.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the immunoassay is a flow-through immunoassay.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

8. - 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~8~~1, wherein the level of ORP150 is monitored periodically.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~8~~1, wherein the level of ~~the natriuretic peptide~~ brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) or N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide (N-BNP) is monitored periodically.

18. - 21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating survival rate in event of myocardial infarction in a mammalian subject by contacting a bodily fluid sample with an antibody specific for an oxygen related protein 150 (ORP150) comprising SEQ ID NO: 2 ~~or a immunoreactive fragment thereof~~ and an antibody specific for N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide (N-BNP) in order to detect the levels of ORP150 and N-BNP in the bodily fluid sample, whereby the relative levels of ORP150 and N-BNP are used in combination to evaluate survival rate in event of myocardial infarction.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the relative levels of ORP150 and N-BNP are used in combination to produce a prognostic index to evaluate survival rate in event of myocardial infarction.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating survival rate in event of unstable angina in a mammalian subject by contacting a bodily fluid sample with an antibody specific for an oxygen related protein 150 (ORP150) comprising SEQ ID NO: 2 ~~or a immunoreactive fragment thereof~~ and an antibody specific for N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide (N-BNP) in order to detect the levels of ORP150 and N-BNP in the bodily fluid sample, whereby the relative levels of ORP150 and N-BNP are used in combination to evaluate survival rate in event of unstable angina.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the relative levels of ORP150 and N-BNP are used in combination to produce a prognostic index to evaluate survival rate in event of unstable angina.